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POETRY.

THE MAY-FLOWER.

THERE is a darling little flower
That blossoms in the Northern woods;
It smiles not in the florist's bower,
But loves its sylvan solitudes;

And there, with tints as pure and bright
As those to Eden's spring-flowers given,
Hid from the heartless gazer's sight,
It blooms for solitude and Heaven.

Yet 'tis not when the moss's cup
Is sparkling with the crystal dew;
Nor when a thousand flowers send up
Their perfumes to a Heaven of blue;

'Tis not when June, delicious June,
With warm breath woos the glowing rose;
Nor in the year's high, garish noon
This little flower in beauty blows;

But while the lingering winter yet
Throws fitfully its feathery snow;
The russet turf is cold and wet,
And keen the early spring winds blow;

'Tis then the little May-Flower blooms.
And in its lonely, leafless bower,
Opens such treasures of perfume
As 'twere earth's only incense flower.

Who owns, who loves, a kindred lot?
Blest in her native sphere to move,
And home, her own sweet hallowed spot,
Cheer with her purest heart of love?

O, here is bliss! the purest, best,
By woman crav'd—to woman given;
Here is her heart's sole, sacred rest,
Beneath the smiles of home and heaven.

MRS. ELIZA B. THORNTON.

Select Literature.

EYES, NOT THEIR OWNERS,

BY S. A. R.

Continued.

WHEN Carlton Kingsbury bared his fine chesnut locks to make his parting bow to Letty that day at the depot, he probably resumed his hat with the resolve of adding her to the not trifling list who had already succumbed to the fascinations aforesaid. Just possibly, also, Mr. Harding, in briskly wending his way to the office, might have thought what a very lovely girl Letty Arnsden was, and how pleasant it would be to see her oftener. Therefore it was the irresistible Kingsbury offered his escort to two young ladies who were discussing the feasibility of spending a day with Letty.

What could not have come alone, upon his own independent hook, some years's experience in the divine Art had taught him better than that. You never caught him doing anything overt, anything that other folks could take hold of; no matter how unmistakable his eyes and actions whispered to the lady herself, he took fine care of everything else.

What if some women with discernment would have estimated Carlton Kingsbury's brain and soul at an astonishingly paltry price, were they to be compared to the physical man? All women are not specially discerning, and therefore it was that more than one heart felt tremulous hands pressed over it to keep down its tumult as the handsome man passed the window or was met in the thoroughfare. Carlton Kingsbury knew it well, and liked to think of it.

The first visit was most pleasant, he had not, for a long time, been so much interested in any one, as in this fresh, fair graduate of Madame Fusser's; there was a piquant composure, a "not-give-in" air about her, something different from the "open your arms and we'll drop in" style of damsels with whom he so generally dealt. Yet, for all that, Letty was young, and beauty loving, and moreover didn't know that Carlton Kingsbury was a flirt. So it is not wonderful that the brown eyes with their tender fascination seemed before her long after the owner thereof had departed.

Mr. Harding was also among the visitors now frequent at the cottage; she liked him very much indeed, but felt that he couldn't compare to Mr. Kingsbury. He never looked or spoke as Kingsbury did, not at all; he was silent—and eyed his boots as often as anything. She was sure he could not have his friend's capacity for liking, and was equally sure he would never care for her. Love after all conducts itself more on the give-and-take plan than we are willing to believe. It is astonishing how little one cares about falling in love with a man who seems to feel no possibility of falling in love with us. This is one reason why these tenderly demonstrative flirts make the headway they certainly do.

In her reception of company at home, returning these favors in Carbonwood, men oftener than she ... calibre be-

of the tender ones. It could not be that the soul within held nothing of the nobleness instinct in every motion of this handsome man. Are we not taught to associate sin and meanness with the sinister unpleasing outside? Always; it is very difficult to think a wholly polished and pleasing person full at heart of everything trival and unbeautiful, and when we have proved it so, it is still hard to keep the fact proportionately in sight. But Letty, with that partial vagueness of vision inseparable from people in any degree in love, was on the point of giving up the unpleasing investigation, and tacitly opposing Longfellow's assertion that—

"All things are not as they seem."

when, one day, in a leafy haunt out of doors, she sat down to read "Adam Bede." She turned page after page with varying interest until she came upon a paragraph which stopped her wholly. It ran:—

"There are facts which nature charges with a meaning and pathos not belonging to the single human soul that flutters beneath them, but speaking the joys and sorrows of foregone generations—eyes that tell of deep love which doubtless has been and is somewhere, but not paired with these eyes—perhaps paired with pale eyes that can say nothing; just as a national language may be extinct with poetry, unfelt by the lips that use it."

Here was an answer directly opposite to the one she had tried to frame for the satisfying of her own doubts. Those doubts came back with ten times their former force, and she felt somehow as if Carlton Kingsbury's description stood forth in that paragraph complete.

"Letty, do you want to go a berrying this morning?" called Mrs. Arnsden from the pantry, from which the sound of sundry muffled thuds proclaimed that bread was being forced into bakeable shape.

"O yes, mother; I had far rather do it than be busy in the house this clear cool morning.

"That shows how little 'ambition' you've got. In my day a girl of your age would be ashamed to say there was anything on earth she liked better than housework. Run along, however."

Letty gayly ran to gather berrying costume and utensil, and tripped swiftly down the slope toward the pond, thinking what very remarkable girls those must have been in the 'young days' of which her mother spoke.

"Letty!" called that lady, appearing with hands ghastly white upon the porch, "if anybody comes, or anything in particular happens, I will blow six toots on the dinner horn, and you can run right back."

"Very well!" cried Letty, laughing and kissing her hand as her mother disappeared to renew her onslaught upon the bread.

Sloping hill covered with tall trees. A patch of these had been cut down, and over their fallen trunks the luscious blackberry weaved its thorny thicket. It was indeed, as Letty's mother said, a "dreadful place" to get through, but Letty understood this sort of wooderaft excellently well; she could engineer past Scylla and Charybdis of threatening briers, with less tears, scratches, or berries spilled, than any maiden thereabout.

The only way the "blackberry reach" could be conveniently gained was by water. The little shallop was soon unmoored, and Letty, seizing the light oars, skimmed over the waters at a rate which soon brought her to the tangled haven she sought. The fruit hung in that great fresh lusciousness it seldom reaches save in some silent, sunned, and shadowed haunt. Letty walked along the prostrate moss-covered tree trunks, parting the vines which closed high above them, picking gayly and rapidly; when any place of extraordinary "thickness" of berries came into view, she would sit down upon her log, the laden vines drooping over her in cool canopy.

The shining, jetty store within the basket was growing high, when the stillness of the September day was cut in twain by the shril appalling blast of the great tin horn. Letty had never heard it blown so loudly before—it was positively piercing; she was sure something dreadful must have happened, so, never pausing for the basket she had set upon the log, she made quick journey to the boat, and in still less time than she had come made her way to the shore opposite the house. She ran breathless up the slope, and had reached the garden gate when she observed two figures on the porch, which made her pause at once, divining now the true state of the matter. It was Messrs. Kingsbury and Harding who awaited her approach; the latter having relieved her mother of the exertion of making the promised summons. Of course his vigorous lungs held greater power of waking echoes than Mrs. Arnsden's possibly could; so the shrill blast was accounted for.

Now you will think Letty was finely caught, remembering the plight in which certain damsels are wont to return from similar excursions. Not a bit of it. True, her dark-brown calico was appallingly ... for those days, showing even a little ... ankle above the thick shoes ... fashion

WHAT THE CANADIANS SAY ABOUT US!

IT is well sometimes to know what our neighbors think of us. The Quebec *Morning Chronicle* of the 11th inst., contains the following well-written article which we reproduce for the amusement and edification of our readers:—

"In Prince Edward Island, Mr. Coles, the leader of the new Liberal Government, has been re-elected to the House of Assembly by an overwhelming majority, his opponent, the representative of the tenant league interest, having only polled the ridiculously small number of twenty-five votes. We regret to notice that Mr. Whelan, one of the few staunch friends of Confederation, has lost his election. Having been appointed Queen's Printer under the new Government, he had to go to his constituents, and the result is that he has been defeated. The majority against him was not large, but such as it was, no doubt it was owing to the intolerance of Confederation sentiments that still prevail among the electors. Nevertheless, there is a likelihood of the prospects improving before long. Considering the decision with which the Islanders have recently rejected even the discussion of the most tempting offers, which were not exactly made but talked about, it may be thought their sudden conversion is scarcely to be looked for. It is certainly not in the nature of communities to change their views all at once on political questions, even from considerations which are quite irresistible in the case of individuals. The temper of the Islanders thus far has been to regard the offer of the greatest advantages only in the light of a bribe to be indignantly rejected, as if the object of civil government was something else than the public advantage. Had the attempt been to subject them to a foreign tyranny they could not have assumed a more lofty tone in scorning the offer of any material benefits as an inducement to submission. It will not be long before they will come to their senses so far as to perceive that a union on equal terms, and for common advantage, with the neighboring communities of British subjects, involves no sacrifice of dignity in patriotic feeling. When they learn by farther experience that they cannot arrive at a settlement of their long-standing land difficulty without the friendly assistance of their neighbors, they will see clearly enough that the proposed union is highly desirable for their own sakes. There is reason to believe that the pecuniary pressure of this difficulty will ere long be greater than ever; and then we apprehend that the virtuous indignation of the Islanders, at the thought ... will be considerably abated. Meantime, it seems the Lieutenant Governor has received despatches from the Imperial Government, the nature of which is not to be communicated till the meeting of the Legislature. They are supposed to contain some important disclosure of the wishes of the Government with reference to the subject of Confederation. We suggested some time ago that it was not improbable that it might at this time be decided that the Colonial Office should discontinue the practice of holding direct communication with the Government of Prince Edward Island. It is in accordance with the theory on which the British American Colonies are governed, that the Lieutenant Governor of each Province should receive his instructions from the Governor General. Except to a certain extent in connection with monetary matters, this theory has not been acted on. Now, however, there is every reason why it should be so. When the Colonial Office is being relieved of the details of administration in connexion with the leading Provinces, it would be absurd to expect that it should continue the responsibility or the trouble of giving directions with reference to the smaller Colonies of Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. Whether these colonies decide to send representatives to Ottawa or not, whether they choose to throw in their lot with the other Provinces, so far as to share the common burdens and advantages, it seems impracticable that in connection with those matters which concern the external relations of the Empire they can have any other executive head than that which will be intrusted with these affairs in the case of the Provinces on the mainland. It is therefore not unlikely that the despatches received by Mr. Dundas may contain instructions to him to report hereafter to the Governor General in place of the Secretary of the Colonies. This will involve no violent change. There will be nothing coercive about it, for the Islanders will still be left free to choose their own time for sending representatives to Ottawa. It may safely be predicted that it will not be long before they will be anxiously knocking for admission to the Confederation, and bitterly regretting that they allowed their prejudices to get the better of their judgment, so as to deprive ... advantages which could only ... by their coming in at first.

The loss of the present opportunity would only cause the deepest regret to them hereafter. A year hence it will be a matter of indifference to their neighbors when they choose to join them. It is not of very great importance now; but by the Prince Edward Islanders there are advantages to be gained at the present moment which they cannot look for afterwards. Whereas we are in the humor to make reasonable concessions now to bring the Island into the Confederation, at a later day it may be found that admission can only be gained by concessions being made on the other side.

House of Assembly.

SATURDAY, May 11.

House in Committee of Supply. Certain Resolutions were submitted, and on the question being about to be put thereon,

Hon. Mr. Henderson directed attention to an item of £20 voted in aid of St. Ann's School, and said he wished to be informed what description of School that was, was it strictly sectarian? If so, he would on principle oppose that grant.

Hon. Attorney General said that the grant in question was equivalent to a similar sum voted to the School known as the Bog School, and conducted under the supervision of the Colonial Church Society. The special and praiseworthy object of both the St. Ann's and Bog Schools was to educate the children of poorer classes, irrespective of their creed or country.

Mr. Bell—It was just and proper to encourage those benevolent Schools for educating the poor, by the small appropriations in the Resolution.

Hon. Leader of the Government—The School in question was one of those poor Schools, conducted on the very same principles as that known as the Bog School.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition was opposed to Sectarian Schools being subsidized by the State. The Bog School was taught by a Protestant Lady, under the supervision of the Church of England, but it was open to the children of all denominations; and if St. Ann's School were conducted on the same liberal principle, and yet not exclusive, he would support the grant of £20 alluded to.

Mr. Rielly—Both St. Joseph's and St. Ann's Schools were open to all classes, and their object was to educate the poor children of the city.

Mr. Prowse—If any religious test was enforced, and the School was not subject to the control of the Visitor as was other Government Schools, he would oppose the grant.

Mr. Kickham—The object of those in charge of that School was to ... denominations.

Mr. P. Sinclair was of opinion that ... such Schools as those alluded to, should ... subject to the same regulations as ordinary District Schools, and he submitted a resolution to the effect, that all Schools receiving aid from the Treasury, whether under the name of Poor Schools or otherwise, should be under the supervision of the School Visitor, and included in the report the same as District Schools taught by licensed Teachers.

Hon. Mr. Henderson was not disposed to take a narrow view of the question. The sectarianism of a School depended on what was taught in such. On principle he was opposed to Schools or Colleges of a sectarian character being supported from the public funds.

Hon. Mr. Howlan—The Bog School was for many years conducted by a Protestant Lady and under the control of the Church of England Rector, St. Ann's School was under the jurisdiction of the Ladies of the Convent, and attended alike by Catholics and Protestants. Those Schools might be named East and West Bog Schools; their laudable objects were similar, namely, the education of the poor and orphan children of the place. He was surprised to ... hon. members, who have in the past supported the grant of the former, ... posing a similar grant for the la...

Mr. Prowse—When Protestants and Catholics established Schools ... own peculiar control, they ... them from the funds of ... Churches, and not seek Gov...

Hon. Mr. Davies—If it ... that any of the Schools in ... sectarian he would not suppo...

Hon. Mr. Henderson ... that the School for which ... asked was not sectar...

Hon. Mr. Lair ... that it is ... nished, ... the gran... on Sch... tion to ... were ... Bo...